GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1789
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
IMPORT OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD ARTICLES
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of genetically modified food articles and other products are increasing in the Country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have convened an inter-ministerial meeting to address these issues; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the meetings?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND F0RESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JU DEV)

(a,b&c) Any product containing genetically modified organisms cannot be produced, sold, imported or used without the prior approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) under the provisions of `Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage o Hazardous Microorganism/ Genetically Modified Organism or Cells 1989` notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. As an ongoing process, inter-ministerial meetings are convened to improve the inter-sectoral coordination of various Ministries involved in the evaluation of GMOs, the latest meeting having been held on 26th February, 2003